

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 048964

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 L-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 SS-14

NSC-10 H-02 PRS-01 AID-20 ABF-01 CIAE-00 INR-09

NSAE-00 RSC-01 T-03 PM-09 DODE-00 /098 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ IFD/ OIA: CNELLIS

3/16/73 EXT. 21966

APPROVED BY EB/ IFD/ OIA: MCKENNEDY

EB/ IFD: SWEINTRAUB

NEA/ IRN: JMIKLOS

L/ EB: LPRESSLER

TREASURY: EGORDON

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R 162012 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIN, IR

SUBJ: IRAN' S SURPLUS PROPERTY AND LEND- LEASE DEBTS

REF: A. TEHRAN 1619, B. STATE 42963

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES RECEIVING EMBASSY' S REPORT AND ASSESSMENT OF AMOUZEGAR' S REACTIONS ON MATTER OF DEBTS. DESPITE HIS SENSITIVITIES, WE FIND IT NECESSARY AT THIS POINT TO CLARIFY REASON FOR OUR ACCEPTANCE OF PARTIAL PAYMENT AND FORMALLY TO REPEAT U. S. PROPOSAL OF LAST SEPTEMBER.

2. AMOUZEGAR SHOULD BE LEFT UNDER NO MISAPPREHENSION THAT THESE PAYMENTS ABSOLVE THE GOI OF ITS OBLIGATION TO REACH AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT, OR THAT OUR FAILURE TO MENTION OVERALL OBLIGATION IMPLIES RELAXED ATTITUDE, AN INFERENCE IRAN DREW FROM EARLIER FAILURES TO DEAL WITH THIS ISSUE.

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PAGE 02 STATE 048964

AS NOTED REF B, TO ACCEPT PARTIAL PAYMENT ON SMALLER ACCOUNTS WITHOUT MAINTAINING CONSTANT PRESSURE ON GOI TO COME TO AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT, COULD GIVE AMOUZEGAR UNFORTUNATE INACCURATE IMPRESSION THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON MAJOR OUTSTANDING ISSUES MIGHT BE DELAYED INDEFINITELY.

3. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY IS INSTRUCTED TO MAKE REPRESENTATION TO AMOUZEGAR (OR AT A HIGHER LEVEL AT EMBASSY'S DISCRETION) SPELLING OUT CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH WE ACCEPT PARTIAL PAYMENT, AND REQUESTING OFFICIAL GOI RESPONSE TO USG PROPOSAL OF LAST SEPTEMBER. WE LEAVE TO YOUR DISCRETION WHETHER YOU WISH TO DO THIS IN BROADER CONTEXT OF DETAILED REVIEW OF VARIOUS OBLIGATIONS AND HISTORY OF NEGOTIATIONS AS SUGGESTED REFTEL A. AIDE MEMOIRE SHOULD BE LEFT CONVEYING GIST OF FOLLOWING:

A. USG ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF CHECK IN AMOUNT DOLS 745,734.06 REPRESENTING FULL PAYMENT OF DOLS 91,121.34 DUE UNDER SURPLUS PROPERTY AGREEMENT OF MARCH 11, 1947, AND A PARTIAL PAYMENT OF DOLS 663,612.72 OF THE DOLS 711,753.36 DUE UNDER THE LEND- LEASE AGREEMENT OF DECEMBER 20, 1945. ACCEPTANCE OF THIS CHECK IS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE TERMS TO BE AGREED ON CONCERNING AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT OF ALL OUTSTANDING LEND- LEASE AND SURPLUS PROPERTY ACCOUNTS.

B. USG WELCOMES THIS PARTIAL PAYMENT AS EVIDENCE OF GOI DESIRE TO ARRIVE AT A PROMPT AND MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT OF THIS ENTIRE MATTER. THE USG SHARES THIS DESIRE.

C. USG REQUESTS GOI TO GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO US PROPOSAL OF SEPTEMBER 28 FOR AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT OF THESE DEBTS. THIS PROPOSAL IS DESIGNED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT GOI POSITION REGARDING PAYMENT OF ACCRUED INTEREST. USG PROPOSAL IS EQUIVALENT TO WAIVER OF MORE THAN 3 YEARS OF ACCRUED INTEREST.

D. USG WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING OFFICIAL GOI RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL AT AN EARLY DATE.

4. YOU SHOULD ORALLY STRESS THAT THE U. S. CONGRESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 048964

CONTINUES ITS STRONG INTEREST IN THE DISPOSITION OF

THESE LONG- PENDING ACCOUNTS. AT PUBLIC HEARINGS ON
MARCH 1, FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION
SUBCOMMITTEE OF HOUSE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE,
MEMBERS OF WHICH VISITED TEHRAN LAST AUTUMN, OFFICIALLY
ASKED THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO CONVEY TO GOI THE
CONCERN OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THIS MATTER.

5. PLEASE ADVISE DEPARTMENT WHEN AIDE- MEMOIRE IS
DELIVERED AND ANY REACTIONS ON PART OF GOI.

6. CHECK RECEIVED BY EMBASSY SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, BUREAU OF ACCOUNTS, ROOM 324,
TREASURY ANNEX 1, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20226.
ADDITIONAL CHECKS ON THESE DEBTS SHOULD BE PAID PAYABLE
TO BUREAU OF ACCOUNTS, DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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